

Christmas Groghwama

PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY.

DECEMBER, 1950 NO. 3.

I N T H I S

I S S U E : -

CONGRATULATIONS
FROM BING-

"WHAT'S NEW!"
by Jean Rainey.

"COLLECTING BING"
by Colin Pugh.

"MEMORIES"
New Film Feature.

"GROANER IN THE
GROOVE"

-& other articles.



JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH BING CLUB.

THE BRITISH BING CLUB.

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9028 Sunset Boulevard
Hollywood, California.

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The Groaner

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BING CLUB.

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J. Rainey; L. Gaylor.

VOL.1 CHRISTMAS, 1950. No.3.

Editorial

Dear Bingologists,

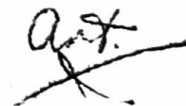
Thanks for all those letters you've sent. I think you'll find all your suggested improvements complied with.

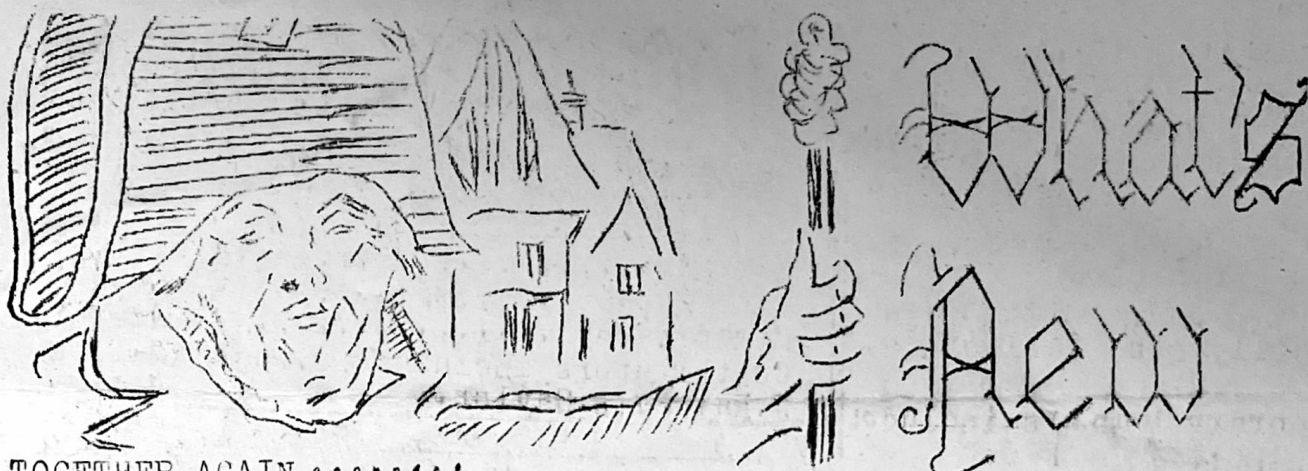
We've tried to make this Christmas issue a bumper one, for not only is it the festive season but, we calculate that the old Groaner has been playing Father Christmas all the year round for just over a quarter of a century. He's been right on top of the tree for nearly twenty years now and it's certain he'll be up there for another twenty if we have our way, and we will!!!

Numerous members have asked for a feature or two on Bing's films. As it's Christmas we thought a little reminiscing would be most appropriate. The idea being for you older ones to sit back and remember the good times Bing has given us while the younger ones just imagine and hope those early Bing flicks will be re-issued soon.

Here's wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Yours (till February),





TOGETHER AGAIN

For the first time since the memorable "Going My Way", three great artists combine their talents for a picture. The actor is Bing Crosby; the director is Leo McCarey and the writer is Frank Butler. The film? - Paramount's new Western which has yet another change of title and it's now called "Thataway". If you are not familiar with the Bar 20 lingo I'll endeavour to provide a good example of the use of this title word. Here goes! If the sheriff is out with his posse huntin' the outlaws he will offer question a settler as to which way the outlaws went. The settler or the like will probably spit and say, "They went thataway". Now to return to business; to make success a sure thing Bing's co-star in this Western is William Boyd, and there's a possibility of the Crosby mavericks - all four of them - making an appearance. It seems a happy coincidence that this set-up is just what we were crying out for in the Summer journal. Put the Groaner on a good horse and he'll always come in first regardless of what Hope might say to the contrary. Now, all we want is a songwriting combination of the Stan Jones, Billy Hill calibre and there may be a distinct possibility of a Western taking away all the Academy Awards next year.

HERE COMES CROSBY.....

Already in production is Bing's next film, "Here Comes The Groom", yes, another change of title; it was previously called, "You Belong To Me". This brings more wonderful news for us as Frank Capra has again been assigned to direct.

This film concerns a happy-go-lucky American at large in Europe (guess who takes the part!) who adopts some French orphans, taking them back to America with him. After much strife they aid him win back his fiancée. At the time of preparing these notes Paramount have already found one French boy. He is ten years old Jacky Gencel. Previously he has appeared in a French film production titled, "Pas de Vacances pour le Bon Dieu". That's another plea of ours come to be - "more children in Bing's films" We thank you, Paramount!!

THE DISC CHAMP.....

In spite of Bing's enormous earnings from films and radio, it is estimated that he makes more from the sale of his records than from any other source, according to reports. It can often be seen in the newspapers that some singer or other has eclipsed Bing's sales records. It would be a great achievement for someone to do this and it is very doubtful if anyone has or if any will.

WHERE THERE'S HOPE.....

Poor (or is he so poor?) Bob Hope, he just can't get away from the man who made him famous. The name Crosby haunts him like a ghost, even in his latest film, "The Lemon Drop Kid"! Don't get too hopeful though, for Bing doesn't appear in this one, but Wade Crosby, renowned character actor does. He's no relation strange to say. "I might add, it makes a pleasant change" said the boy, who, WE MIGHT ADD, is the only guy in the world who has his own television aerial by permission of Mother Nature. Hope just hangs out the window and gets any video station by pointing his nose in the transmitter's direction.

SOND-HOO-VI-A-GUND.....

Believe it or not that's a new non-de-plume for Bing. It means "Man of many songs" and was bestowed upon him by a tribe of Indians who have a reservation one hundred miles north of Elko where Bing's ranch is situated. Bing helped these Indians with funds for their hospital and rodeos. They also wanted to name a nearby lake after the Groaner, but the district Senator said that Bing would have to die before such an honour could be bestowed upon him. We ask the Senator, "How many times does Bing have to die". According to the American press, Bing was reported as dead over one hundred times. There were no less than eight reports of his death while he was making "Mr. Music".

CATHODE CROSBY.....

Bing Crosby Incorporated are now making special films for T/V presentation in the U.S.A. They are using the old Hal Roach Studios in Hollywood. Charles Bickford, who appeared with Bing in "Riding High" is a television enthusiast and he has recently acquired his own shop in Hollywood.

A Canadian newspaper has commented on the way things change so quickly. It reports that ten years ago one could see a big Bing Crosby musical for a dollar now, you can get a fifth rate film via a television set priced \$400.00.

MEER COINCIDENCE.....

Hollywood isn't such a big place, although it may seem so! About fifteen years ago Bing played opposite Grace Bradley in "Too Much Harmony". Since that time Grace married Bill Boyd - and he plays opposite Bing in that eagerly awaited western next year.



JEAN RAINEY
REMEMBERS SOME
MEMORABLE SCENES
FROM BING'S FILMS.



Have you ever been to a re-issue of one of Bing's films, then sat and waited for a certain scene to come round? I certainly have and I don't suppose I'm the only one!

"Pennies From Heaven" was an early success, and although I didn't see it when it was first released in 1937, I've seen it several times in recent years. I shall never forget Bing singing the title song to the then young Edith Fellows. Songs don't seem to be composed like that these days, nor do the natural settings seem to be evolved.

Do you remember "The Starmaker" another excellent Bing starrer made even more enjoyable by the presence of children in a number of scenes with Bing? There was that unforgettable setting of "Apple For The Teacher" with Bing, spectacles perched right on the end of his nose, and my own special favourite - the scene in which Bing sang "A Man and His Dream". I'm no swooner. There were none in 1939, but the way Bing sang that song made me go just a little weak at the knees.

"Sing You Sinners" was another film in which Bing's happy-go-lucky personality came to the fore. For me, the best remembered vocal scene was "Small Fry", a grand Johnny Mercer tune. Bing had perfect support in Fred MacMurray and juvenile comedian, Donald O'Connor.

It's nigh impossible for me to mention all the memorable scenes from "Holiday Inn", but I must not neglect to say a word of appreciation for "White Christmas". I have every respect for the genius of Irving Berlin who wrote the musical score for this wonder film but I do feel that "White Christmas" owes its tremendous success entirely to Bing's wonderful interpretation. Who could ever forget Bing, sitting at the piano by the huge Christmas tree, tapping his old burner against the glass decorations to illustrate the sound of sleigh bells. Probably the most brilliant song setting was prepared for "Easter Parade". The horse and buggy; the tree-lined avenue of apple blossoms plus the incomparable tones of Bing. Bing appeared with Fred Astaire in another Berlin musical feast in 1946, "Blue Skies". Of the many delightful scenes I choose to remember the charming "Running Around In Circles" scene in which Bing sat at the miniature piano to sing to little Caroline Grimes. What a partnership they made; a perfectly good demonstration of Bing's wonderful 'managing' of children.

In this picture we were able to enjoy another comedy number by Bing and Fred. No one would call Bing a dancer but he was apparently undaunted by the greatness of Astaire and practically danced himself - and Fred - to a standstill. Bing's happy countenance was a joy to behold; it was easy to see that he was enjoying himself as much as the audiences did.

I find it quite difficult to pick out a memory from "Going My Way"; there are so many, every moment was memorable. Bing's mastery of song was particularly evident in his singing of the famous carol, "Silent Night" in the basement of the church with the Robert Mitchell Boys Choir. Surely there is no one who is capable of singing this Christmas evergreen with so much true sincerity.

To be a little more up to date is the "Friendly Mountains" scene from the "Emperor Waltz". What joy to behold the illustrious Groaner ambling along the mountain path dressed in his Tyrolean outfit (the one that set all the girls in a whirl over the Crosby stems). That, combined with the magnificent range of Bing's voice made this another scene ne'er to be forgotten.

Not all the best remembered scenes from Crosby films are vocal and a good example of this I mention the children's nativity play featured in "The Bells of St. Mary's" and from the same film, the final scene where Bing as Father O'Malley changes his mind and explains to Sister Benedict just why she's being sent away from her beloved St. Mary's.

Bing always provides a good slice of comedy in his films, but I rate his funniest to be "Paris Honeymoon" (I'm not overlooking those 'Road' films) This film served to provide undeniable proof of his leadership in the light comedian stakes.

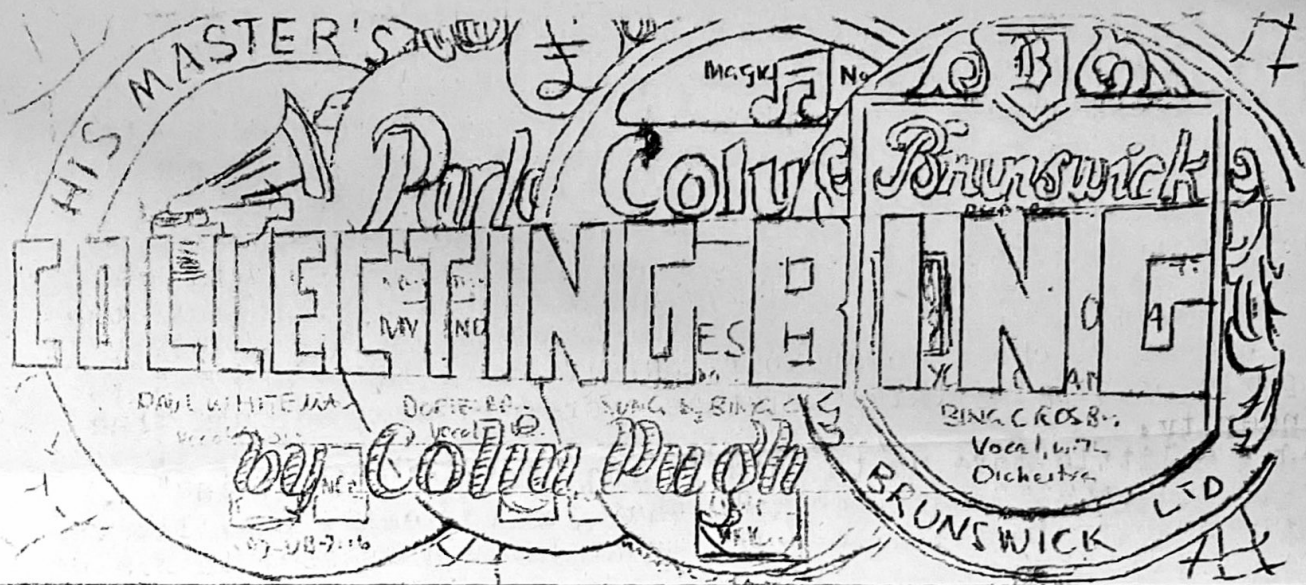
Finally, there's Bing's latest success, "Riding High". Bing was positively bubbling over with energy in this; that terrific climax scene in which Broadway Bill breaks his heart. Bing has never been so dramatically serious as when he was literally running the race with his horse.

More and more memories are pouring into my mind so I must stop before I fill the rest of "Crosbyana". So, as I close, I say, "Thanks for the memory, Bing." With the knowledge that the years to come will provide many more memories to fill a thousand pages.

.....

ANNOUNCING!!!!!! THE JO STAFFORD CLUB.

Who hasn't heard of the girl who sings everthing from hill-billy to Christmas carols? We are pleased to report that Jo's fan club is accepting new members for 5/- per annum. Write to:- Mr. Jack Saunders, 13, Cormont Road, London, S.E.5.



I SHOULD LIKE to make it clear that articles, which I hope will contain interesting material for even the more hardened collectors of Bing Crosby records, are primarily intended to arouse a greater interest in , and render assistance to the more casual collector and to those who, having but a few of the Crosby waxings, would like to get down to the job seriously, especially with a little guidance.

IF you enjoy listening to Bing at all, then I cannot recommend a more absorbing pastime. It must be taken seriously and by that I mean setting out to obtain a complete collection of his discs including those made as a vocalist with Paul Whiteman's orchestra back in 1926.

THIS hobby, in common with others, requires two things, time and cash!! The amount expended of the former is obviously optional and usually depends on the amount of effort and interest taken. Make no mistake, there is a lot to learn. You will be amazed!! If you are cautious you will still find the collection of Crosby discs is a full time job. A couple of guys in the States have eight thousand records by the Groaner.

Regarding the cost of your hobby; I can think of many others more costly, but with a view to economy my advice is to specialise, and by that I mean, don't go in for a general collection as well. Keep to Bing; his waxings will keep you fully occupied. I have about 500-odd discs which I collected before settling down to Bing.

CARE AND STORAGE OF RECORDS.

A few words dealing with these points may prove very useful to those not far on the road with their collection, and will, in fact apply to anyone who treasure's their discs.

The correct method of storing discs is always 'on edge' or perpendicularly, never flat or horizontally.

This latter method will case warping quicker than anything else. The former method has the advantage of making it easier to select a required record, like a book from a shelf. It is advisable to have a door or cover on the cabinet or shelves on which you store your discs thus keeping out the dust.

Before playing a record, the surface should be cleaned of all loose dust. For this purpose plush cleaning pads are on sale from most gramophone shops. Your discs will last much longer and sound much better if they are devoid of dirt.

AS YOU KNOW, records are supplied in paper envelopes and these should always be replaced after use. With constant use, these envelopes become ragged and torn therefore one may purchase an alternative cover made of stout card, usually sewn down the edges. This type comes rather expensive nowadays. Buying a few at a time is the best solution, then the cost would be unnoticeable. I can offer a further suggestion (Art will bear me out on this) is to purchase a large roll of gummed paper strip. There are various widths available, but I consider the one inch size to be suitable. Most stationers stock these strips which are buff or brown in colour.

First thing to do is cut pieces from the roll to the same length as the edge of your standard paper envelopes and fold them in half down the centre. Open out flat again and moisten with water. Then take your paper cover and carefully lay it on half of the moistened strip ---indicated by the crease already made --- and fold back the other half over the edge with the fingers. All three closed edges can be treated thus and you will have a really durable cover. If all discs are treated in this way you will have a collection in complete uniformity. It is important to note that the gummed strips mentioned stiffen after drying and are perfect for effecting repairs to other parts of paper covers which may have become torn.

The afore mentioned 'operation' may prove a little tiring so I will disclose that I use an old glue brush for moistening the pieces of strip. If you own a scotch terrier or similar breed you will find this animal very useful too! I also made a little machine for folding the gummed strip. A perfect job it does too, and all I have to do is to pull the strip through the patent folder which I made from a dried milk tin. You can, of course, make the necessary crease with an ordinary rule by making a crease first with the fingers then with the flat side of the rule. This makes a perfect crease and aids the sticking action.

BEFORE signing off I wish to invite any collector to drop me a line if he or she has any query on this subject. My present address is:- Patchway Farm, Almondsbury, Bristol. Please note that such queries will be answered via this journal.

Crosbytalk

by JEAN and ARTHUR.

THE first day of October brought us a letter from Bing and he wrote of his pleasure in reading the Autumn "Crosbyana", and the discography. Bing says he thinks our club is coming along in top shape. He had quite a few words to say about the discography and suggested we might get in touch with an American music publisher who is preparing an American discography of his records in order to exchange facts and co-operate in many ways.

OUR first competition was, undoubtedly, a success and we enjoyed all the drawings you sent to us. Margaret Robinson, of "Dunfield Cottage", Greenfield Lane, Balby, Doncaster, Yorkshire was awarded first prize (a black and gold Mentmore Diploma fountain pen, sorry, couldn't get a blue and gold one!) for her fine drawing of Bing in Tyrolean attire. We'd tried to copy it for our front page, and we hope you will respect that the cover copy is the closest we can get to Margaret's original. Our Soldier member, CFN Frank Joyce won the second prize. You will remember that we used his effort for the news letter cover in November. We sincerely thank all of you who obliged with contributions. They were all so good that we hope to mimeograph all the entries in time.

Speaking of mimeography reminds us to thank those of you who have graciously made pledges towards our duplicator fund. If we have enough subscriptions we shall be able to turn out a monthly "Crosbyana". We intend to do this as soon as possible and, if we get that new duplicator you will receive monthly journals as from next February. They won't be twenty eight page editions but they will contain more of the latest news. We refrain from printing some of the Groaner's doings in these quarterly issues because we know that you have seen the news already in the mags and weekly newspapers. It is our intention to give all the news of our star so you will not have to buy and search through the dozens of periodicals. We know that many of you (as we do) pay a shilling or more for a film magazine in order to see if there is anything in it about Bing. If there is any news you can bet you have previously read it in the well established "Picture Show" or "Picturegoer".

Three months ago we proposed an increase in the annual club dues. Nearly everyone seconded our proposal. We are pleased to announce that, owing to the enrolment of many new members, we are able to keep the subs down to 7/6 instead of 8/6. We want to toast our Vice-president and Publicity Chief, Les Gaylor, for it is almost entirely due to his hard work and enthusiasm used to gain us new members that we can decrease our fees.

Well, we guess that we have brought you all right up to date with club business and we can now dwell on this issue of our club journal. We hope you like this new and more expensive highly glazed paper - don't you think it has improved the clarity of the type? There is still one vital thing that is not so good and that's the typography. Reg Davis did all the vellams for the supplement, but, lack of time necessitated our old type writer being employed for these journal pages. We hope to let Reg do all our vellam stencilling in future and if we haven't got the best club journal in captivity we'd like to know who has!!

For our future "Crosbyanas" we intend to list all Bing's films with his co-stars and all the songs he's sung in them. Another project in view is a serialised version of his life story. If any of you have not read the biography of Bing's rise to fame which was published in 1937 then you don't know what a colourful life Bing had. This book was penned by Larry and Fred Crosby. The Jolson Story is nothing compared with this.

We feel we must end this feature with a tribute to a very great entertainer, Al Jolson. Al, as we all are well aware, was the first big time singing star to hit Hollywood. Unfortunately, the world and Hollywood neglected him until Larry Parks reminded us that there was an awful lot of personality in the Fabulous Mammy singer and that it was still fresh and ready for serving to the younger generation. At the time of his death Al was en route to take part in Bing's radio show in San Francisco. He had already been to Korea to entertain the troops. Al was always ready to entertain the people who made him famous. Many of us have recollections of the numerous shows he did in the Army camps in and around Shrewsbury during the 1939-1945 war. We are fortunate in having wonderful records of his original singing style coupled with his equally wonderful songs. He had recently cut some new discs with Bing and we shall probably be hearing them in the near future, we hope so! There is or was but one Al Jolson, just as there is but one Bing. We offer our sympathy to The Al Jolson Club in this country on behalf of all club members.

the groover IN THE GROOVE

RECORD REVIEW by LESLIE GAYLOR.

PLEASE NOTE LES'S NEW
ADDRESS ::

41, LINDEN ROAD,
NEWPORT, I. of W.

His address in other
pages is, "unavoidably, his
previous one."

MY THANKS to all of you who responded so magnificently with the postcards in aid of the Columbia appeal to get those gems like "Happy Go Lucky You"; "Beautiful Girl"; "Little Dutch Mill", etc., re-issued.

When the position is considered, it is a sad blow to deny us such wonderful waxings by Bing of "Learn To Croon"; "My Love"; "Cabin In The Pines" and "The Shadow Waltz". The masters of these discs were handed over to E.M.I. by Brunswick way back in the thirties. However, the Columbia (EMI) company has done us well, re-issuing no fewer than 55 of these recordings plus six very early Bings, making a total of 61 sides altogether. It still remains that we are denied a few which, I consider, to be amongst the very best Crosby offerings.

I have approached the Columbia people scores of times and they have always shown great interest and with all the necessary evidence provided by your postcards we must leave the matter to them.

NOW for the new Brunswick Bings. Since our last journal four discs have come our way. I have no knowledge of any November records at this time. We cannot blame our Decca as the trouble is probably caused by the Printing Trades strike. The Co-President Art, and my local dealer, surmise that Decca have not been able to get the new discs labelled. You will notice new pressings are bearing new type letters. It is, therefore, evident that our manufacturers tried another firm which has now joined the strike. In the last three months the USA have had the following by Bing - "Helpless"; "This Could Be Forever"; "Stay Well"; "The Little Grey House"; "La Vie en Rose" and "When The Sun Goes Down" plus some titles from "Mister Music".

BRUNSWICK	"SAM'S SONG" XXXXX Matrix L569 Recorded on 23/6/50.
04553	"SO TALL A TREE" XX " W76116 " " 8/4/50-

THE FIRST side features Bing duetting with eldest son, Gary in a good recording. Already it is a great favourite with collectors and casual buyers.

Undoubtedly, the record's main interest is Gary. I don't think Bing will lose his coveted place (coveted by the others) because of Gary's debut. Junior doesn't seem to very great just yet, but I was impressed by his performance which I would say is both nifty and clever.

Bing opens up and then introduces Gary -- & way they go!!

Matty Matlock supplies a nicely balanced accompaniment.

"So Tall A Tree" did not impress at first, however, it's growing on me now. Sy Oliver helps out, so does a new team called The Aristocrats (vocalists).

Can't quite class this song, except in the "out-of-the-ordinary" category. The lyrics tell of the use of large trees to small men. After Bing's first round there is a blast from Oliver's orchestra which lowers the listening qualities of this side. There can be no reason for Bing to end with the words, "So if you ask a tree what it would rather be, it would rather be a tree". This would not have happened in the 1930's!!

BRUNSWICK "I DIDN'T SLIP, I WASN'T...." XXXXX Mat. W. 76115. 8/4/50
04568 "PLAY A SIMPLE MELODY" XX " L 5698. 23/6/50

The first is really good Bing, in fact, superb! Again Sy Oliver and his orchestra with The Aristocrats accompany, but to far greater advantages. The best part is the example of perfect timing shown when The Aristocrats leave everything to Bing on four or five occasions. The maestro caresses the song and executes "tongue in the cheek" attitude. More like this please, Bing!! The other side again features the team as on "Sam's Song" and I don't like it so much because too much valuable space is given to Gary and not enough to the boss. Gary isn't as good as he was in "Sam's Song". Bing opens up, and that's about all we hear of him. For the rest of the recording he is almost heard chanting in the background. There is the odd spoken wisecrack, of course. Apparently, Dad wanted his son to have all the mike; a generous gesture! Irving Berlin composed this tune which is not one of his best.

BRUNSWICK "BIBBIDI-BOBBIDI-BOO" XXX Matrix 15 304 Rec. on 3/1/50
04580 "I CROSS MY FINGERS" XXXX " 15 696 " 22/6/50

"Bibbidi-bobbidi-boo" is from Disney's new film, "Cinderella". Bing's treatment is very good although I feel he could have got hold of the tune a little bit more. He employs a bit too much ease, nevertheless, he gets the song over pretty well. The lyrics are extremely tongue twisting. Assistance is rendered by the Bud Conlon Rhythmairs and the orch. is that of Vic Schoen. This side was recorded at the same session as "Chatanooga Boy".

Bing in sentimental mood is presented on the other side. "I'll Cross My Fingers" boasts excellent romantic lyrics which will please our female members. It's safe to predict this tune will be a Family Favourites standby in the near future. I note that the orchestral accompaniment is supplied by Axel Stordahl, formerly with Frankie Boy Sinatra. This talented gent also directs the chorus and backs Bing up as he deserves.

BRUNSWICK "TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC" XXX Mat. L5694. Rec: on 22/6/50
04581 "RUDOLPH, THE RED NOSED REINDEER" XXXX L5695 22/6/50

I never dreamed Bing would record the old favourite, "Teddy Bears Picnic" but, here it is with the Groaner doing good work which is marred by the noisy accompaniment of Victor Young's orchestra. Other than this the recording is good. Jud Conlon's Rhythmairs assist a very happy sounding Bing boy. The backing is also 'good Bing', indeed, it is a faultless disc and I enjoy it immensely. The most famous voice lilt and drawls in wonderful croon style clearly showing what a lot depends on the interpretation of the lyric. When he sings "Glow" you can feel the warmth!! No doubt this will become an annual. This recording features the same accompaniment as on the other side.

THE ADVENT OF CHRISTMAS will probably mean more recordings in the true festive spirit. As these anticipated discs have not yet materialised I can only leave them until our next journal.

THERE is only need for me offer my best wishes to you all for a very happy Christmas and a bright new year. The same to my able colleagues, Jean, Arthur, Dot, Colin, Reg and Avril and, of course, to Bing for all the wonderful enjoyment you have given me over many, many years.

L.G.

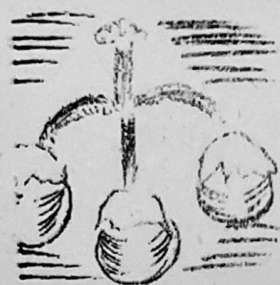
THE GREATEST TRIBUTE TO BING CROSBY.

I am a regular listener to BBC's "Family Favourites" disc shows. There is hardly a programme goes by without a request for a Bing. I was listening to this show a few nights ago when I heard what I consider to be the greatest reason to request Bing to sing. The disc jockey in attendance read out the following:-

"Will you please play Bing singing 'If I Had My Way' for my mother who remains an invalid because I was born."

I doubt if the song could have been more appropriate. I felt glad that Bing did such an excellent job of singing it. That is one reason I now listen more carefully to the reason for a record.

A.N.A.



EXCHANGE AND MART

RECORD CONDITIONS:-

- M = In Mint condition
EX = As New, no surface noise.
VG = Slight Sur. noise
G = Average s/noise.
F = Heavily needled.
P = Heavily needled & bad surface no.

MEMBER:- Ralph S Harding, 27, Springvale Avenue, Brentford, Middlesex. Phone: EAL 7472. Offers following discs by Bing.
Send no cash. Minimum price as marked. Bids must be in by January 4th, 1951. Highest bidders notified. Any disc may be withdrawn.

FOR EXCHANGE:-

BRUN 1615 EX Torch Song/Shadow Waltz.
1596 VG Thanks/Black Moonlight.
1456 EX Young and Healthy.
1469 G Some Of These Days/Honey Arms.
1785 VG Reminds Me Of You/May I.
1480 G Beautiful Tonite/Getting Habit.
1434 G U Still in my Heart/Buddy Can U
1531 G I Got World On A String.
1563 G Ox Road/Gotta Sing Torch Song.
1850 VG Strate From Shoulder/Love Bloom.
1608 EX Home On Range/Last Round Up.
1562 G Moonstruck/Learn To Croon.
1380 EX Please/Here Lies Love.
1700 VG Ever See Dream/Let's Spend Evening
1557 VG Shadow Waltz/Cabin In Pines.
1349 P Summer Comin' On/Love Me Tonite.
1356 P Shine/Sweet Georgia Brown.
1166 VG Out Of Nowhere/I? U ever need me.

FOR SALE.

BRUNS. 2618 2/6 G
2499 4/- VG
2577 3/9 EX
2444 4/- Mint
3019 3/9 EX
3312 3/9 EX
3396 1/9 F
3031 3/9 EX
2900 2/- VG
2664 2/- G
2849 3/9 EX
3650 3/- VG
3032 1/6 F
2444 3/9 EX
2285 1/3 P
2263 2/3 G
3618 3/- EX
2681 3/6 EX
2881 1/3 Mint.

WHITEMAN orch. or labelled as RHYTHM BOYS.

HMV B5351 Shanghai Dream Man (chorus) VG. (Chipped, no effect disc)
5471 Ol' Man River/Make Believe (solos) VG
2562 Sweet Li/Aint She Sweet/Mississippi/
Mud/Left Sugar In Rain.. Rhythm Boys. G.
5515 Aint No Sweet Man Worth Salt (solo) EX.
5317 Magnolia (Rhythm B; Nichols trumpet) G.
5311 Saxophone Waltz (chorus) P.
5366 My Blue Heaven (chorus) EX.

(AND MANY OTHERS.)

HMV BD470 Just A Gigolo/Wrap Troubles Dreams (both solos) with
Gus Arnheim and Harry Barris, piano) G.

COL. DB1802 Please/Love In Bloom EX.

DB2049 Straight From Shoulder/She Reminds Me Of You. F.

5071. That's Grandma (Rhythm Boys) F

5544 Little Pal/I'm In 7th Heaven (solo, Rh. B. boys) VG.

Livin In Sunlight

COL-CB117 U Brought New Kind Love/~~174/1h/774/44444~~(Solo/Boys)
 4951 Get Out Get Under Moon/Constantinople(Solo/Chorus)
 5675 Waiting End of Rd/Counting Stars Alone(Solos)G.
 5241 I'm On The Crest Of Wave(Solo)G.
 5456 Louise (Solo)G.
 5724 Bundle Of Old Love Letters (Solo) M.

PLEASE NOTE:- Ralph will exchange any of above for any of the records listed below that are required by him. If a swap cannot be made he will sell any of above. His average price is about 4/-.

W A N T E D:- (Your price paid for these.)

1297 Starlight/How Long Will It Last.
 1374 Waltzing In A Dream/Let's Try Again.) Must Be Very
 2523 The One Rose/ After Sundown. (Good
 2413 Shadow Waltz/ My Little Buckaroo.) Upwards.
 1304 Love You Funny Thing/Shadows On The Window. } Already have
 1316 S h i n e / Swee Georgia Brown. } copies but
 1326 Happy Go Lucky You/ Cabin In The Cotton. } Excellent
 1308 My Woman / P a r a d i s e . } required.
 107 Lawd You Made Nite Too Long. } Will pay FORTY SHILLINGS
 ? Face Music Medley. } for either disc.

Col.2037 My Kinda Love/Baby Where Can U be.

WHITEMAN (HMV or VICTOR)

Muddy Water.	Wistful & Blue.	Pretty Lips.
I'm In Love Again.	M a r y .	Sunshine.
Mississippi Mud.	I'm Wingin Home.	U Took Advantage.
From Monday On.	Do I Hear U Saying.	Whiteman Medley:-
Poor Butterfly.	L o v e a b l e .	parts 1/2 2.
Metropolis(pt.3&4)	You're Telling Me.	Bahama Mama.
High Water.	Collette.	Love & Hisses.
Jig Time.		

WHITEMAN (COLUMBIA or AMERICAN CILUMBIA)

DC176 Oh! Miss Hannah. 5702 After U've Gone.
 9561 Xmas Melodies/Silent Night. It Isn't Anything At All.
 GUS ARNHEIM, HMV B6047 One More Time.
 " " any one VICTOR with Bing.

PARL.R385 Spell Of The Blues.R331 Let's Do It(both Dorsey Bros)

ARIEL 4364 or French or German. "Susanna" PARL.R332 NOT REQD.

MEMBER:- Mr. J. JOYCE, 82, Hawksford Cres., Low Hill, Wolverhampton, Staffs. Wants "I Have To Pass Your House" will pay cost of disc plus a new Decca USA disc of "The Headless Horseman"(L4782)/Katrina(L4734).

LESLIE GAYLOR, 82, Pyle St., Newport, I. of W. wants Brunswicks 01297, 01304, 01326, 01557, 01663, 01667, 01615. and foreign labels, English Decca Export discs unreleased in Eng. by Bing. Also wanted:- Record envelopes. Please send details and price.

Frankie's

PALLADIUM DEBUT

"CAB" SMITH
SEES FRANKIE AT
THE PALLADIUM.

IN JULY THIS YEAR, I spent an enjoyable evening at the London Palladium theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue watching Frankie "boy" Sinatra at work.

Woolf Phillips was in command of the Skyrockets, who were in their usual top form. This orchestra has accompanied all the top American artists who have appeared during the season. The orchestrations for Sinatra's songs had the Stordhal technique but, as you probably know, Frank finished with Axel some time ago so we guess a new and very capable arranger has been found for the Voice.

Frankie opened up with a popular tune of the moment called, "Bye-bye, Baby". He handled this apparently tricky number well, even though he may have been distracted when some girls in the audience called out to him.

After this first number he was afforded tremendous applause. He then went into "Nancy - with the laughing face"; following that with the current Hit Parader, "Bewitched". The latter rocked the house, mainly because, after he sang the first line he chipped in with the words, "Steady now!". As you might imagine, this put some of the females in a trance and slight screams could be heard from the Gods.

After each two songs Sinatra went to the wings where he sipped a cup of tea. It is said that he prefers our national beverage to coffee because it's good for his throat.

He sang six songs straight off and again brought the house down with his rendition of the classic ballad, "Ol' Man River". In this great success he exercised the art of perfect voice control. This was particularly evident about half way through the song when he sang, "You get a little drunk, an' you land in jail". Like Bing and Robeson he took "jail" right down without a break. He was magnificent at the end of the song and came up with a high finish - and that high finish is not so easy - ask Crosby!!

After the applause died down he spoke very highly of Bing and the orchestra struck up with "Ol' Man River" again. This time Sinatra used lyrics "based on Father Crosby" and he titled his version, "Ol' Man Crosby". During this parody an applause broke out for you know who!

The time passed quickly and Frankie went into his signature tune once again bringing his performance to a close.

Many in the audience - and myself - were sorry to see him go off. He was everything a great performer should be while he was on stage. He got over his personality easily and I suggest those who haven't seen him this time will make the effort next year. Don't let me put you off by ending this short review with these words, "My money's on Bing for always!!!!"

CAB SMITH.

Miss Trudie Morris, president of the Sinatraphiles has forwarded the words to Frank Sinatra's parody on "Ol' Man River". We know you'd like to read them over so, here they are:-

" O L ' M A N C R O S B Y "

(Kern, Hammerstein II, Sinatra.)

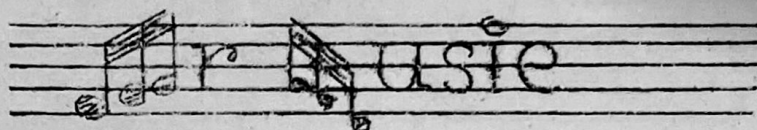
There's a guy who owns a lot of horses,
Real estate, and a baseball team too,
Plays a lot of golf on a lot of courses,
I love that guy, and so do you.

Ol' Man Crosby, that Ol' Man Crosby,
He don't say nuttin', but he must know suppin',
That Ol' Man Crosby, he just goes singin' along,
He don't wear bow ties of silk or cotton,
And though I wears 'em, I still got nuttin',
But Ol' Man Crosby, he keeps on singin' along.

Tony Martin an' me, we sweat and strain,
Throats all achin' and racked with pain,
"Hit those notes! Keep those tones in your head!"
He b = b = boos, and we're all dead.

I gets weary and sick o' tryin',
If Como says he's happy, you can bet he's lyin',
'Cos Ol' Man Crosby, he just keeps singin' along.

HOW ABOUT THIS? Let's provide Bing with a parody on Frankie. There's "Nature Boy", "He Ain't Got Nobody", "Very Thought Of You", "Never In A Million Years", "If I Had My Way", "Can't Get Frankie Off My Mind" just waiting for appropriate lyrics. Send your version to Art. The best goes to Bing. This competition closes on January 24th, 1951.



Director: RICHARD HAYDN.
Producer: ROBERT L. WELCH.
Running Time: 110 mins.

CAST INCLUDES: Bing Crosby, Nancy Olson, Charles Coburn, Ruth Hussey, Tom Ewell, Robert Stack, Ida Moore.

IT IS going to be a very hard job to do full justice to "Mister Music". From the opening scene to the grand finale it's definitely one of the best Bing Crosby films ever!!

NEVER has Bing been so carefree, charming and humorous. He is cast in the role of a composer singer who is more fond of golf and horses than work. His producer, (Charles Coburn) signs on a secretary, (Nancy Olson) to ensure that Bing keeps his nose to the grindstone, and, as she holds the purse strings, she eventually succeeds.

THERE IS a whole heap of talent in this film, but Bing dominates every scene, and unwittingly steals the picture. His dead pan humour is even more to the fore. Just one lift of the eyelid one short sentence and H.L.C has the audience eating out of his hand. There can be no doubt that Bing is the greatest of the great artists. He is even greater because he is able to conceal his art behind his apparent nonchalance.

THERE WILL probably be some difference of opinion about the songs. I can only report that I enjoyed them all, Bing makes them sound as if they were the best ever written. I found "High On The List"; "Accidents Will Happen" and "Life is peculiar" most attractive. If you are interested, the Groaner's magic vocal cords sound better than ever.

THE guest artists were all at their best. Bing's duet with Dot Kirsten, of the Met Opera, was superb. The funniest of the Marx Brothers makes a short appearance with Bing and Peggy Lee also sings with the Maestro while The Merry Macs provide a few invigorating minutes with their harmonising.

NANCY OLSON is attractive in the feminine lead; fortunately Bing doesn't have to go through the embarrassment of making love to her. Other fine performances are given by CHARLES COBURN, RUTH HUSSEY, as Bing's ex-girl friend, TOM EWELL, as a butler-cum-caddy, IDA MOORE, as Aunt Amy, RICHARD HAYDN, alias Claude Curdl a man of few words and a grand dance team, Mr. and Mrs. GOWER CHAMPION

THIS IS BING'S PICTURE ALL THE WAY!! IT'S THE TREAT OF A CENTURY
J.R.